

H-204258

CLEAN VERSION OF AMENDMENTS**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the specification as follows, illustrated below in "clean" format:

Page 5, lines 20-29:

The particularly preferred structural support for securing an end plate 30 to a substrate 20 prior to size reduction of an outer shell 50 to the assembly is a securing mechanism 32 affixed to an inner side of the end plate. The securing mechanism 32 is made of a material suitable for use in high temperature environments and is of a diameter greater than that of the catalyst substrate 20. This allows for the securing mechanism 32, which can have any appropriate geometry such as annular, conical, cylindrical or other, to extend around an annular end portion of the substrate 20, as is shown in Figure 1, forming a gas shield to protect optional insulation material in the annulus of the end plenum 64.